Pol 14 Viet-S (1634)

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R SAIGON

83
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-06 H-02 INR-06 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 IO-11 UPW-01
RSR-01 /086 W

036716

R 021057Z OCT 71
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 655
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
CINCPAC
AMCONSUL DANANG
USDEL FRANCE
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Joan Izenberg DATE 1/26/82
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☑ RELEASABLE☑
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

2/10 15 JA 82

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 15782

(1) CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJECT: COMMENTS OF THE SAIGON MAYOR

1. POLITICALLY ASTUTE, SAIGON MAYOR COLONEL DO KIEN NHIEU COMMENTED TO EMBOFF OCTOBER 2 THAT HE EXPECTS ABOUT 60 PERCENT OF THE REGISTERED VOTERS TO VOTE, WITH ABOUT 80 PERCENT VALID VOTES. HE EXPECTS SOME DEMONSTRATIONS SUNDAY FROM STUDENTS AND VETERANS ATTEMPTING TO INTERFERE WITH THE POLLING STATIONS, BUT POLICE SHOULD BE ABLE TO DISPERSE THEM EVEN THOUGH HE HAS ORDERED THEM TO AVOID USING TEAR GAS SO AS NOT TO DRIVE THE VOTERS AWAY. NHIEU, HOWEVER, FORECASTS LARGE DEMONSTRATIONS TO BEGIN SEVERAL DAYS AFTER ELECTIONS WHEN PROTESTS WILL BE MOUNTED TO DEMAND THAT THE SUPREME COURT INVALIDATE THE ELECTION RESULTS.

2. NHIEU ALSO EXPECTS THAT PRESIDENT THIEU WILL MAKE SWEEPING CABINET CHANGES AFTER HIS SECOND TERM BEGINS NOVEMBER 1, IN ORDER TO PRESENT THE SECOND TERM GOVERNMENT TO THE PEOPLE AS A "NEW" REGIME. NHIEU INTIMATES THAT THIEU IS WEIGHING THE DESIRABILITY OF APPOINTING A CIVILIAN PRIME MINISTER. HE HAD

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ALREADY DECIDED TO HOLD ELECTIONS FOR MAYORS IN 1972, DELAYING ELECTIONS OF PROVINCE CHIEFS UNTIL SOME LATER POINT BECAUSE OF SECURITY REASONS.
BUNKER

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